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1601 MARKET STREET  
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PHILADELPHIA PA 19103-2307

#9

In re Application of  
Robert T. McWethy  
Serial No.: 10/098,729  
Filed: March 15, 2002  
For: RETRACTABLE NEEDLE MEDICAL  
DEVICE FOR INJECTING FLUID FROM A  
PRE-FILLED CARTRIDGE

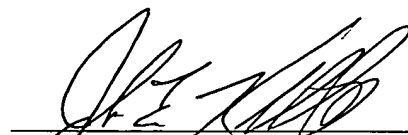
DECISION ON PETITION

This is in response to applicants' petition filed May 2, 2002, to make the above-identified application special under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.102(c), based on the merits as it relates HIV/AIDS.

Applicant has satisfied the provisions set forth in M.P.E.P. 708.02, X. Therefore the petition is **GRANTED**.

**The application will be forwarded to the examiner for action on the merits commensurate with this decision.**

Should there be any questions with regard to this letter please contact John Kittle by letter addressed to the Director, Technology Center 3700/2900, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or by telephone at (703) 308-0873 or by facsimile transmission at (703) 308-3139.

  
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John E. Kittle  
Director,  
Technology Center 3700/2900